



**Richard Bland College**  
*of WILLIAM & MARY*

**RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION  
RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Richard Bland College of William & Mary women's basketball team finished runner-up in the Women's DII NJCAA National Championship on March 25, 2023, at the SC4 Fieldhouse in Port Huron, Michigan;

**WHEREAS**, in its inaugural season, the Richard Bland College Statesmen won the Region 10 Championship to qualify for a spot in the Women's DII NJCAA National Championship tournament;

**WHEREAS**, the 8<sup>th</sup> seeded Statesmen won the first-round game against Mid Michigan College and proceeded to upset the #1 ranked team in the nation, Morton College, in the quarterfinals;

**WHEREAS**, the Statesmen went on to defeat the #5 seed, Harcum College, in the semifinals, setting up a match against the #2 seed, CCBC Essex for the National Championship;

**WHEREAS**, the Richard Bland College of William & Mary women's basketball team put up a valiant effort, before being defeated in overtime 95-85;

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of their accomplishments, Auzhane Allard and Janiah Jones earned All-Tournament honors;

**WHEREAS**, along with a magnificent run to the National Championship finals, the RBC Statesmen finished the season with an impressive 29-3 record, a remarkable first season for the program and for head coach Olivia Gaines; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of the Richard Bland Statesmen is the result of the hard work and dedication of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and professors, and the unwavering support of their families and the entire Richard Bland College community;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the William & Mary Board of Visitors acknowledges and recognizes the Richard Bland College women's basketball team for placing second in the 2023 National Championship; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Board and a copy of the same be delivered to each member of the team with best wishes for continuing success in the years ahead.